

MICHIGAN COMMISSION OF AGRICULTURE RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE NORTHEASTERN LOWER PENINSULA AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCE STEWARDSHIP COOPERATIVE

WHEREAS, The Michigan Department of Agriculture (MDA) strongly supports the recommendations outlined in the document titled *Pilot Project: Managing Bovine Tuberculosis (TB) in the DMU 487* compiled by the Northeastern Lower Peninsula Agriculture and Natural Resource (NLPANR) Stewardship Cooperative; and,

WHEREAS, Members of the above Cooperative have diverse backgrounds and viewpoints about bovine Tuberculosis (TB), yet were able to collaborate on policy recommendations to both MDA and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and the Environment (DNRE) for the eradication of bovine TB; and,

WHEREAS, Their ultimate goal, like ours, is to eradicate bovine TB in DMU 487; and,

WHEREAS, The Wildlife Risk Mitigation Project (WRMP) is a key component of MDA's Bovine TB Eradication Program to prevent transmission between free-ranging white-tailed deer and cattle; and,

WHEREAS, MDA and the NLPANR Stewardship Cooperative supports tying state and federal indemnity payments to farms' WRMP status if found positive for bovine TB in the Modified Accredited Zone; and,

WHEREAS, They agree the plan will require involvement from all landowners, stakeholders, and industries that work in DMU 487; and,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Michigan Commission of Agriculture supports the efforts to knock down barriers, compromise, and work toward accomplishing NLPANR Stewardship Cooperative goals; and,

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Michigan Commission of Agriculture encourages members of the NLPANR Stewardship Cooperative to become mentors and leaders in their communities and encourage use of WRMPs; and,

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Michigan Commission of Agriculture supports efforts by the Northeastern Lower Peninsula Agriculture and Natural Resource Stewardship Cooperative to take ownership of bovine TB eradication efforts in Northeast Lower Michigan.

Adopted June 16, 2010 Lansing, Michigan Todd J. Regis, Chair Michigan Commission of Agriculture